

I claim:

1. A machine gun of the Gatling type having a main housing and a top cover and safing sector assembly hingedly attached to the main housing external thereto, said main housing having a top cover latch keeper and a safing sector latch keeper fixedly provided thereon, said top cover and safing sector assembly comprising:

a safing sector hingedly attached to said main housing;

a top cover hingedly attached to said safing sector; and

a top cover latch assembly for permitting said top cover to be moved between open and closed positions, said top cover latch assembly comprising a top cover latch housing mounted on said top cover proximate said top cover latch keeper, said top cover latch housing retaining a spring-loaded sliding latch member therein, said sliding latch member having a latch tab mounted at a rearward end thereof, said latch tab being manually actuable for releasable engagement with said top cover latch keeper to permit movement of said top cover between said open and closed positions thereof.

2. A machine gun of the Gatling type having a main housing and a top cover and safing sector assembly hingedly attached to the main housing external thereto, said main housing having a top cover latch keeper and a safing sector latch keeper fixedly provided thereon, said top cover and safing sector assembly comprising:

a safing sector hingedly attached to said main housing;

a top cover hingedly attached to said safing sector;

a top cover latch assembly for permitting said top cover to be moved between open and closed positions; and

a safing sector latch assembly for permitting said top cover and safing sector assembly to be moved between open and closed positions, said safing sector latch assembly comprising a safing sector latch housing mounted on said safing sector proximate said safing sector latch keeper, said safing sector latch housing having a central channel therein and having a top cover with a pair of tab openings centrally positioned therein, said safing sector latch assembly further comprising a pair of safing sector latch members, each of said safing sector latch members having a tab portion that extends upwardly through a respective one of said tab openings in said top cover and a lower pin portion that protrudes outwardly within said central channel for engagement with said safing sector latch keeper when said top cover and safing sector assembly is in said closed position thereof.

3. A machine gun as in claim 2, wherein said safing sector latch assembly further comprises a spring member positioned within said channel between said safing sector latch members for urging said safing sector latch members away from each other, said safing sector latch members being manually actuable, by compressing said tab portions thereof, for enabling engagement of said pin portions thereof with said safing sector latch keeper when moving said top cover and safing sector assembly to its closed position and for enabling disengagement of said pin portions thereof from said safing sector latch keeper when moving said top cover and safing sector assembly to its open position.